

Honorable Chairman and members of the committee,

For the record my name is Marissa Stockton and I am here representing Eagle Forum, a national organization that lobbies for God, Country and Family.

Today we rise up in opposition to HB 733. This bill is not a good idea because it gives more control over the student's health to the Department of Public Health and Human Services and the Public Schools of Montana instead of the parents making informed health decisions on what is best for their daughters.

As we all know whenever a vaccine is made, the main ingredients are inactive proteins from the virus itself. Think back to when Smallpox was going around the United States, the test vaccine was in fact an active culture of smallpox given to the patient so as to ward off a life threatening attack of smallpox. Why in the world would anyone want to inject an STD into innocent young girls who are pure from the start by taking the chance that they could obtain the virus through a vaccine, when in fact the virus is only contracted by sexual activities? In other words, young girls could contract the STD without ever being sexually active. Is this something the state and the public schools want to be responsible for?

Ninety nine percent of all cervical cancers develop from an STD that you can only contract by having sexual intercourse. It offends me in many ways that this bill would force this vaccination on girls who are not yet old enough to make decisions about their own sexuality. I myself have made a decision to remain sexually pure until my wedding day. I have made a choice and with that choice I know that I will never have to worry about contracting an STD and therefore cutting down my risk of getting cervical cancer to just 1 %.

According to an article in the Washington Times published on February 3rd 2007, twenty different states and the District of Columbia have reported that there are young girls experiencing severe headaches, dizziness, temporary loss of vision and some girls have lost consciousness during what appears to be seizures from the vaccine Gardasil according to Vicky Debold, health policy analyst for the National Vaccine Information Center, a nonprofit watchdog organization that was created in the early 1980s to prevent vaccine injuries. This vaccine is dangerous and we, at Eagle Forum will not stand by and watch 11 and 12 year old girls be experimented on.

In closing, I urge all the committee to vote no on HB 733. Let parents make the choice and not the state or the public schools.

Marissa Stockton

1430 Boston Road

Helena, MT

*Marissa Stockton*